

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 15, 2004. Claims 13 to 22 remain pending in the application, with Claims 23 to 26 have been canceled. Claims 13 and 18 are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim 26 was objected to for an informality. Inasmuch as Claim 26 has been cancelled, the objection is believed to be obviated. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 13 to 15, 18 to 20 and 23 to 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,028,513 (Addy) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,973,592 (Flick), Claims 16 and 21 were rejected under § 103(a) over Addy in view of Flick and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,706,191 (Bassett), and Claims 17 and 22 were rejected under § 103(a) over Addy in view of Flick and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,259,548 (Fahey). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns communication of warning status information. According to the invention, when a warning status has occurred in an electronic device, a user is notified that the warning status has occurred. If the detected warning status is not released within a predetermined time, warning information is transmitted to a registered device that has been registered by the user as a device that is to receive the warning information. If the warning status is not released in spite of transmitting the warning status information to the registered device and if it is determined that the user is not near the device, then the warning information is information is transmitted to one or more hand-held terminals in an external network according to a predetermined order. (See, for example, page 36, line 26 to page 37, line 13) As a result, if the user is, for example, out of the house when a warning occurs in a device (e.g.,

refrigerator, air conditioner, etc.), the user can receive the warning information on their hand-held terminal.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 13 is an electronic device, comprising a detecting unit adapted to detect whether a warning status has occurred, a warning unit adapted to notify to a user that the warning status has occurred, and a communication unit adapted to transmit warning information indicating that the warning status has occurred, wherein, if the warning status is not released within a predetermined time, the communication unit transmits the warning information to a registered device that has been registered by the user as a device that is to receive the warning information, and if the warning status is not released in spite of transmitting the warning information to the registered device and if it is determined that the user is not near the electronic device, the communication unit transmits the warning information to one or more hand-held terminals in an external network according to a predetermined order.

Amended independent Claim 18 is a method claim substantially corresponding to Claim 13.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of independent Claims 13 and 18, and in particular is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of, if a detected warning status is not released within a predetermined time, transmitting warning information to a registered device that has been registered by a user as a device that is to receive the warning information, and if the warning status is not released in spite of transmitting the warning information to the registered device and if it is determined that the user is not near the device, transmitting the warning information to one or more hand-held terminals in an external network according to a predetermined order.

Addy is merely seen to disclose a wireless alarm system in which an initiating alarm device 22 detects an alarm condition and transmits, via a wireless radio

frequency, an alarm signal to a central receiver 14. The central receiver 14 passes the received alarm signal to a controller 11 that activates a siren 18 and, if appropriate, dials a police or fire department via a dialer 20. Addy's alarm signal includes an identifier of the alarm device 22 which is used by the controller 11 to determine addresses of other alarm devices 24 to be activated in a vicinity of the alarm device 22. If the alarm signal is still present after a predetermined delay, then additional alarm devices could be activated in peripheral zones. (See column 6, lines 1 to 13.) Thus, Addy merely transmits a radio alarm signal, but the transmission of the radio alarm is not initiated as a result of a warning status not being released in spite of transmitting warning information to a registered device and if it determined that a user is not near the device for which the warning status occurred.

Flick is merely seen to disclose a vehicle security system that transmits a signal to a remote unit. The remote unit, when it receives the signal, provides an indication to the user of a type of condition that occurred at the vehicle. Thus, Flick merely discloses a security system in a car that transmits a signal to a remote unit held by a user. However, Flick is not seen to disclose or to suggest anything that, when combined with Addy, would have resulted in at least the feature of, if a detected warning status is not released within a predetermined time, transmitting warning information to a registered device that has been registered by a user as a device that is to receive the warning information, and if the warning status is not released in spite of transmitting the warning information to the registered device and if it is determined that the user is not near the device, transmitting the warning information to one or more hand-held terminals in an external network according to a predetermined order.

In view of the foregoing, amended independent Claims 13 and 18, are believed to be allowable over Addy and Flick.

Bassett and Fahey are not seen to add anything that, when combined with Addy and/or Flick, would have resulted in the present invention of independent Claims 13

and 18. More particularly, Bassett and Fahey are not seen to disclose or to suggest anything that, when combined with Addy and/or Flick, would have resulted in at least the feature of, if a detected warning status is not released within a predetermined time, transmitting warning information to a registered device that has been registered by a user as a device that is to receive the warning information, and if the warning status is not released in spite of transmitting the warning information to the registered device and if it is determined that the user is not near the device, transmitting the warning information to one or more hand-held terminals in an external network according to a predetermined order.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of Claims 13 to 18 are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward A. Kmett
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,746

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 93351v1